

How Much Food is Needed Daily from the Food Groups?



The amount of food you need to eat depends on your age, sex, and level of physical activity.

	Age in years	Grains (ounces equivalent)	Vegetables (cups)	Fruit (cups)	Dairy (cups)	Protein (ounces equivalent)
Children	2-3	3	1	1	2	2
	4-8	5	1 ½	1 to 1 ½	2 ½	4
Girls	9-13	5	2	1 ½	3	5
	14-18	6	2 ½	1 ½	3	5
Boys	9-13	6	2 ½	1 ½	3	5
	14-18	8	3	2	3	6 ½
Women	19-30 **	6	2 ½	2	3	5 ½
	31-50	6	2 ½	1 ½	3	5
	51+	5	2	1 ½	3	5
Men	19-30	8	3	2	3	6 ½
	31-50	7	3	2	3	6
	51+	6	2 ½	2	3	5 ½

^{**} This line in the chart represents recommended daily amounts for 2,000 calories.

The amounts in this chart are	What counts as	What counts as	What counts as	What counts as	What counts as
appropriate for individuals who get less than 30 minutes per day	an ounce?	a cup?	a cup?	a cup?	an ounce?
of moderate physical activity beyond normal daily activity. People who are more physically	1 slice of bread or a 6" tortilla	1 cup of raw or cooked vegetables or vegetable juice	1 cup of fruit or 100% juice	1 cup of milk, yogurt, or soy beverage	1 oz of meat, poultry, or seafood
active may consume more calories while staying within calorie needs.	½ cup of cooked rice, cereal, or pasta	2 cups of raw leafy	½ cup of dried fruit	1 ½ oz of natural cheese or 2 oz of processed cheese	¼ cup of cooked beans 1 egg
	1 cup of ready to eat cereal	greens			1 Tbsp of peanut butter
					½ oz of nuts or seeds

